

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 6–9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirayama (US Patent No. 5,493,604 A) in view of Azartash et al. (WO 9921343 A1) and further view of Takahashi (JP 411027352A) and Takagi et al. (US Patent No. 5,235,656 A). For at least the following reasons, the Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

None of the references disclose or suggest “a battery terminal, a microphone, a key diaphragm, and a LED for keys are all mounted on portions of one surface of the flexible board and said portions are folded or turned down before storing in the lower case” as recited in claim 1.

The Office Action of September 23, 2005 states on page 4:

The resultant phone is foldable (see Hirayama figures 1a and 1b), which reads on the claimed “a battery terminal, a microphone, a key diaphragm, and a LED for keys are all mounted on portions of one surface of the flexible board and said portions are folded or turned down before storing in the lower case.”

Although the Hirayama *phone is foldable*, the above-cited claimed elements refer to the foldability of *a flexible board* in the phone case and have nothing to do with whether the phone itself may be folded. Hirayama does not disclose or suggest anything about phone elements mounted on portions of one surface of *a flexible board* and that these portions of *the flexible board are folded or turned down* before storing in a case. Therefore, Hirayama fails to disclose or suggest a battery terminal, a microphone, a key diaphragm, and a LED for keys are all mounted on portions of one surface of a flexible board and the portions are folded or turned down before storing in a lower case. Thus, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirayama, in view of Weissshappel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,857,148), and further in view of Tamura (JP 406224816), Takahashi (JP 411027352A) and Takagi et al. (US Patent No. 5,235,656 A). For at least the following reasons, the Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

None of the references disclose or suggest "a battery terminal, a microphone, a key diaphragm, and a LED for keys are all mounted on a same surface of the flexible board and folded or turned down before storing in the lower case" as recited in claim 11.

The Office Action of September 23, 2005 states on page 10:

The resultant phone is foldable (see Hirayama figures 1a and 1b), which reads on the claimed "a battery terminal, a microphone, a key diaphragm, and a LED for keys are all mounted a same surface of the flexible board and folded or turned down before storing in the lower case."

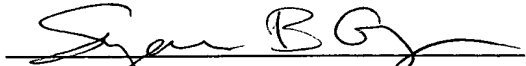
As mentioned previously for claim 1, although the Hirayama *phone is foldable*, the above-cited claimed elements refer to the foldability of *a flexible board* in a phone case and have nothing to do with whether the phone itself may be folded. Hirayama does not disclose or suggest anything about phone elements mounted on a same surface of *a flexible board* and then *folded or turned down* before storing in a case. Therefore, Hirayama fails to disclose or suggest a battery terminal, a microphone, a key diaphragm, and a LED for keys are all mounted on a same surface of a flexible board and folded or turned down before storing in a lower case. Thus, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Appln. No. 09/806,103
Response dated December 8, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated Sept. 23, 2005

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge the same
to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 33388.

Respectfully submitted,
PEARNE & GORDON LLP

By: 
Suzanne B. Gagnon – Reg. No. 48,924

1801 East 9th Street
Suite 1200
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-3108
(216) 579-1700

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